

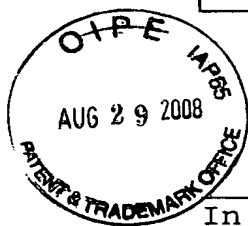
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
Dated: August 26, 2008 Signature: [Signature]
(William A. Di Bianca)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3738

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437

CIPCIPCIPCIPCIPCON I



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Errico et al.

Application No.: 10/784,646

Filed: February 23, 2004

For: ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISC
TRIAL HAVING A CONTROLLABLY
SEPARABLE DISTAL END

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: Group Art Unit: 3738
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: Examiner: B. E.
: Pellegrino
:
:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 26, 2008, finally rejecting claims 1-21, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: